DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 290 482 IR 052 252

AUTHOR King, Christine; And Others
TITLE Library Skills for Psychological Research. A Workbook for PSY 121.
INSTITUTION State Univ. of New York, Stony Brook.
PUB DATE 87
NOTE 59p.; A product of the Melville Library. Some figures contain small, blurred print.
PUB TYPE Guides - Classroom Use - Materials (For Learner) (051)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC03 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS Abstracting; Cataloging; Citation Indexes; *College Libraries; Government Publications; Higher Education; Indexes; Library Catalogs; *Library Instruction; *Library Skills; Online Searching; Periodicals; Psychological Testing; *Psychology; *Social Science Research; Workbooks

ABSTRACT

This workbook for a course taught at the State University at Stony Brook, New York, is designed to help students develop library skills for psychological research. Nine major topics are covered: (1) author-title and subject catalogs; (2) some major reference books; (3) journals in psychology; (4) periodical indexes and the periodicals catalog; (5) abstracting sources in psychology and related fields; (6) the Social Sciences Citation Index and computerized information retrieval; (7) general magazines and newspapers; (8) psychological tests and measures; and (9) U.S. government documents. Each chapter provides objectives for that chapter and a descriptive account of pertinent subject matter. In addition, five chapters include a brief introduction, six chapters present a summary of the topics covered, and a selective listing of specialized reference works is provided at the end of the second chapter. (CGD)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

ED290482

CG

LIBRARY SKILLS FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH

A WORKBOOK FOR PSY 121

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.

Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.

Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy

CHRISTINE KING
NATHAN BAUM
RICHARD FEINBERG

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT STONY BROOK

MELVILLE LIBRARY

1987

IR052252

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

Richard Feinberg

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

Copyright © 1987 by Christine King, Nathan Baum, and Richard Feinberg

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. The Author-Title and Subject Catalogs 1

II. Some Major Reference Books 9

III. Journals in Psychology 17

IV. Periodical Indexes and the Periodicals Catalog 21

V. Abstracting Sources in Psychology and Related Fields 27

VI. The Social Sciences Citation Index and Computerized Information Retrieval 33

VII. General Magazines and Newspapers 39

VIII. Psychological Tests and Measures 45

IX. United States Government Documents 53

CHAPTER ONE

THE AUTHOR-TITLE AND SUBJECT CATALOGS

After reading this chapter you will be able to do the following:

- -determine if the library owns a particular book by looking up its author or title in the Author-Title Catalog
- -interpret the different elements of a catalog card
- -understand the Library of Congress call number and how it relates to a book's shelf location in the library
- -use the Library of Congress List of Subject Headings to compile a list of subject headings for your topic
- -effectively use the Subject Catalog to determine what books (and other materials) the library owns on your topic

THE AUTHOR-TITLE CATALOG

The card catalogs in the Reference Room may be thought of as an index to the library's collection. Library materials are listed alphabetically in these catalogs in three ways: by author, title, and subject. In the Author-Title Catalog, the cards for both authors and titles of books are interfiled in one alphabet. Therefore, the Author-Title Catalog should be consulted when you are looking for a particular book and you know its author and/or its title. The book will be listed both ways. This catalog is also useful in determining which titles of a particular writer's work are owned by the library.

In addition to the cards filed in the Author-Title Catalog for authors and titles of books in our library, there are cards filed for others (such as editors, compilers, illustrators, and photographers) who contributed to the work. Other important information that appears on catalog cards are the Library of Congress call number, the imprint, the collation, and the tracings. Because these terms may be new to you, their definitions follow the illustrations on the following page which show two different ways that one book may be listed in the Author-Title Catalog.

AUTHOR CARD

Author

Library of Congress Call Number

Title

Imprint

The author card (right) would be filed under the author's surname in the "S" section of the Author-Title Catalog. The title card (below) would be filed under the title in the "p" section of the Author-Title Catalog.

Main
HM
291
.S825

Stewart, Robert A.
Person perception and stereotyping
Robert A. Stewart, Graham E. Powell, Jane Chetwynd ; with a foreword by H J. Eysenck. -- Farnborough, Eng. : Saxon House, c1979.
ix, 318 p. : ill. ; 23 cm.
Bibliography: p. 267-296.
Includes index.

1. Social perception. 2. Stereoty (Psychology) I. Powell, Graham E., joint author. II. Chetwynd, Jane, joint author. III. Title

NSbSU 04 AUG 80 5706568 YSMMat 79-317

TITLE CARD

Title

Collation

Tracings
(Note: title cards do not list all tracings; compare with author card above.)

Person perception and stereotyping

Main
HM
291
.S825

Stewart, Robert A.
Person perception and stereotyping
Robert A. Stewart, Graham E. Powell, Jane Chetwynd ; with a foreword by H J. Eysenck. -- Farnborough, Eng. : Saxon House, c1979.
ix, 318 p. : ill. ; 23 cm.
Bibliography: p. 267-296.
Includes index.

1. Social perception. 2. Stereoty (Psychology)

Library of Congress call number: a number assigned to a book which indicates its "address" in this library, and which is a code for the subject of the book.

imprint: place of publication, name of publisher, and date.

collation: the number of pages in a book, its height in centimeters, presence of indexes and bibliographies.

tracings: notes on the bottom of the card which indicate the subject headirgs under which the book is listed in the Subject Catalog (Arabic numerals), and the additional entries under which it is listed in the Author-Title Catalog (roman numerals).

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

In the Library of Congress system, the alphabet is used to designate broad subject categories. The first letter (or letters) of any call number indicates what the subject is. For example, books about psychology are assigned call numbers beginning with "BF," social psychology books are given an "HM" call number, and books in the area of ethnic psychology get call numbers beginning with the letters "GN." After the first letter (or letters), numerical codes are used to further specify the subject. For example, books about psychoanalysis get call numbers beginning with BF 173, BF 174, or BF 175; books on developmental psychology are given call numbers in the BF 712 to BF 724 range; books about parapsychology have the call numbers between BF 1001 and BF 1389 reserved for them; and so on. The goal of this type of classification system is to shelve books on similar subjects together. This allows for browsing the shelves in a call number range to discover books related to your area of interest.

Since each book has its own unique call number, the many different combinations of numbers and letters provide the variations of call numbers needed for the large collection in a library such as ours. An example of a call number assigned to a book is shown below.

Main
BF
719
.F57
1984

This call number may be interpreted as follows:

Main----indicates that the book is shelved in book stacks in the Main Library.
BF------for psychology.
719-----specifies developmental psychology.
.F------the first letter of the author's surname.
57------further identifies the author
1984----book's publication date; especially important for distinguishing different editions of the same book.

FILING RULES

Cards are filed in the catalogs alphabetically according to a set of rules established by the Library of Congress. Two of the most important filing rules follow:

1. Word-by-word. Entries are filed in a word-by-word arrangement with each word in the entry treated separately. As a result, New Times precedes Newsday, because "new" comes before "news." "Nothing comes before something" is one way of remembering this rule.

2. Articles. When an article such as "the" or "a" is the first word of a title, it is disregarded when the card is filed. Consequently, The Gin Game would be filed under "Gin." However, articles within the entry are considered in the word-by-word arrangement. Consequently, Anatomy of Murder would be filed after Anatomy of a Murder because "a" comes before the "m" in "murder."

THE SUBJECT CATALOG

The Subject Catalog may be defined as the catalog that lists, under a set of subject headings, the books, periodicals, and other materials the library owns. The headings which are used in the Subject Catalog are taken from a book called the Library of Congress List of Subject Headings. The two large red volumes which contain this "list" are kept on the Subject Catalog, and there is another set behind the reference desks. To make the most effective use of the Subject Catalog, you should consult these volumes to find what subject headings to look up in our catalog to find books on the topics you are researching. The excerpt from the Library of Congress List of Subject Headings on the following page is annotated to focus on and explain the major elements of the List.

After you've compiled a list of potentially useful subject headings from the Library of Congress List of Subject Headings, go to the Subject Catalog and check under those headings to see if they are included in the catalog drawers. If they are, they will be clearly typed at the top of "guide cards." These cards stand out because they are slightly taller than regular catalog cards, and are covered by protective plastic jackets. Look through the catalog cards filed behind these guide cards to find titles related to your topic.

Excerpt from the Library of Congress List of Subject Headings

Memory *(Psychology, BF370-385; Psychology, Educational, LB1063)*
- *sa* Amnesia
- Association of ideas
- Association tests
- Attention
- Comprehension
- Conservation (Psychology)
- Eidetic imagery
- Interruption (Psychology)
- Learning, Psychology of
- Maze tests
- Mnemonics
- Music—Memorizing
- Perseveration (Psychology)
- Recognition (Psychology)
- Recollection (Psychology)
- Reproduction (Psychology)
- Short-term memory
- Subconsciousness
- *subdivision* Memorizing *under subjects, e.g.* Music—Memorizing
- *x* Forgetfulness
- Retention (Psychology)
- *xx* Brain
- Comprehension
- Educational psychology
- Formal discipline
- Intellect
- Mental discipline
- Mnemonics
- Perseveration (Psychology)
- Psychology
- Psychology, Physiological
- Reproduction (Psychology)
- Thought and thinking
- — Effect of drugs on
- *xx* Drugs—Physiological effect
- Psychopharmacology

Memory, Disorders of *(BF376)*
- *sa* Amnesia
- Amusia
- Aphasia
- Fugue (Psychology)
- *x* Paramnesia
- *xx* Cognition disorders

Memory, Immune
- *See* Immunologic memory

Memory, Immunologic
- *See* Immunologic memory

Memory, Virtual (Computer science)
- *See* Virtual storage (Computer science)

Memory as a theme in literature
- *See* Memory in literature

Memory devices
- *See* Ferroelectric storage cells
- Magnetic memory (Calculating-machines)

BOLD FACE HEADINGS

These are terms which can be looked up in our Subject Catalog. We have many of these bold face headings in our catalog; however, if we have no books on a topic, the Subject Catalog will not include any headings for that topic.

Call number areas under which books on this topic would be shelved.

Headings next to and under the symbol "xx" are also potentially useful. These headings are usually more general than the bold face heading under which they are listed. For example, under the bold face heading, "Memory," the terms from "Brain" through "Thought and Thinking" all appear next to or just below the "xx" symbol. All these terms may be looked up in the Subject Catalog.

Headings next to and under the symbol "x" are not usable headings. For example, under the bold face heading, "Memory, Disorders of," the term, "Paramnesia" is not a term you can look up in the Subject Catalog. The term, "Memory, Disorders of," or any of its associated "sa" or "xx" terms should be looked up instead.

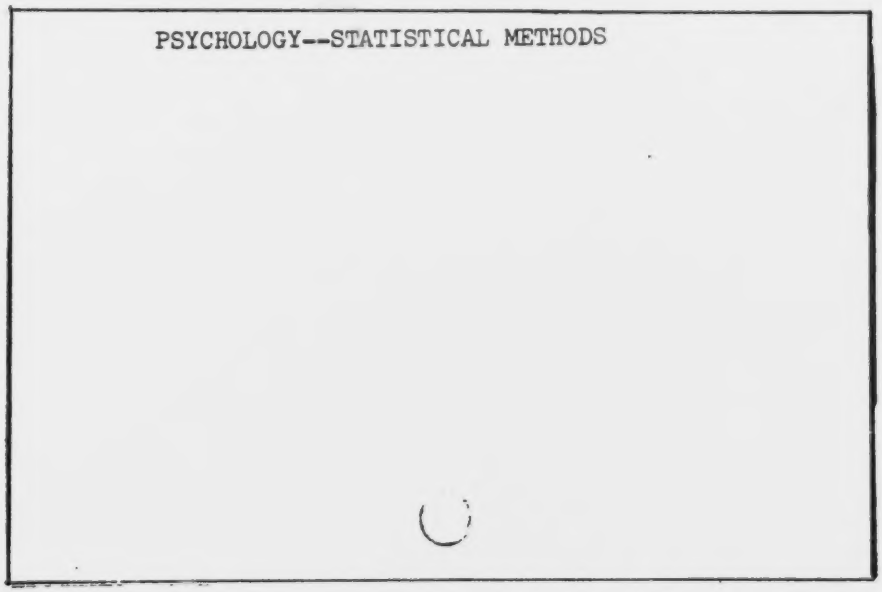
Headings next to and under the symbol "sa" (meaning see also) are potentially useful headings too. These headings are closely related to (and usually more specific than) the bold face heading under which they appear. For example, under the bold face heading, "Memory, Disorders of" there is a notation that you may see also (sa) "Amnesia," "Amusia," "Aphasia," and "Fugue (Psychology)" in the Subject Catalog.

"See references" refer you from headings which are not used to headings which are used for a particular topic. For example, if you are interested in "Memory as a theme in literature," you are instructed that the correct heading for this topic is "Memory in literature."

If you are looking for information about a person, a city, or any other name that is normally capitalized (that is, all proper nouns), you can probably go directly to the Subject Catalog to find relevant books. Most proper nouns are not listed in the Library of Congress List of Subject Headings because their inclusion would make this work even larger than it already is. Aside from this exception, to ensure that you are looking up all the possible subject headings assigned to your topic, use the Library of Congress List before you go to the Subject Catalog.

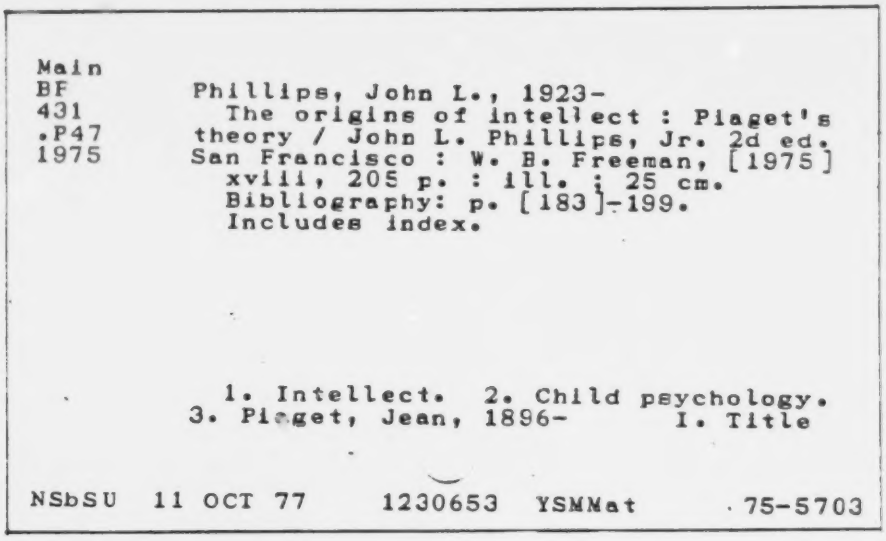
SUBDIVISIONS

The subject headings printed in the Library of Congress List of Subject Headings and used in our Subject Catalog can be made to express more specific concepts by adding subdivisions to them. For example, the heading "Psychology" can have the subheading "Statistical Methods" appended to it. In the Library of Congress List, appropriate subheadings are indicated by printing them, preceded by a dash, beneath the headings with which they may be used (see preceding page). In our Subject Catalog, the guide card for this heading would look like the example below. Behind this guide card you would find books about statistical methods in psychological research.



TRACINGS

"Tracings" have already been mentioned on page 2. They are the group of numbered entries that appear at the bottom of catalog cards. Tracings preceded by Arabic numbers are subject headings (also referred to as subject tracings) and they indicate the headings that a book is listed under in the Subject Catalog.*



Main
BF
431
.P47
1975

Phillips, John L., 1923-
The origins of intellect : Piaget's theory / John L. Phillips, Jr. 2d ed.
San Francisco : W. H. Freeman, [1975]
xviii, 205 p. : ill. ; 25 cm.
Bibliography: p. [183]-199.
Includes index.

1. Intellect. 2. Child psychology. 3. Piaget, Jean, 1896- I. Title

NSbSU 11 OCT 77 1230653 YSMMat 75-5703

For example, the sample card shown above for John Phillips' book is from the Author-Title Catalog. If this were a useful book for your research topic, you could use the subject tracings shown at the bottom to help you look up additional books in this library that fall within the range of your topic. To do this, go to the Subject Catalog and look under the headings "Intellect," "Child psychology," and "Piaget, Jean, 1896-." Under those headings you would find cards for Phillips' book, as well as for others on the same topic.

*Tracings preceded by roman numerals are additional entries under which a book is listed in the Author-Title Catalog.

THE SUBJECT SEARCH PROCESS: A SUMMARY

A search of the Subject Catalog for books on a particular topic should begin with the Library of Congress List of Subject Headings. Use these volumes to compile a list of appropriate headings for your topic. Remember that while most proper nouns do not appear in the Library of Congress List, they can be looked up in the Subject Catalog nonetheless. Next, look up the terms you found in the Subject Catalog. Note down the authors, titles, imprints, and complete call numbers of books which look most relevant. Finally, check the subject tracings on the cards for these books for additional relevant subject headings, and look these headings up in the Subject Catalog to find more books on your topic.

CHAPTER TWO

SOME MAJOR REFERENCE BOOKS

After completing this chapter you will be familiar with

- -the kinds of informational questions in psychology that can be easily answered by reference books
- -the types of reference books that can answer these questions
- -some methods for finding these books on your own

INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes several types of reference books which can help you answer a variety of basic research questions quickly and conveniently. The sources tend to present information in a brief, concise format, and therefore suit the student who is in need of background or review information. The following sources are covered:

*Specialized Encyclopedias
*Specialized Dictionaries
*Psychological Handbooks
*Biographical Sources and Directories
*Subject Bibliographies

SPECIALIZED ENCYCLOPEDIAS

Articles in this kind of encyclopedia are on topics that relate to one field or area of study. This is in contrast to general encyclopedias (e.g. Encyclopedia Americana) which attempt to include articles on all the world's knowledge. Articles in specialized encyclopedias are written by experts in their fields and are intended for serious researchers who would like to read scholarly overviews of topics in a given discipline. The articles in specialized encyclopedias usually include bibliographies which list writings on the topics covered.

A major specialized encyclopedia for psychology is the International Encyclopedia of Psychiatry, Psychology, Psychoanalysis, and Neurology (Ref BF31.I57 1977). This twelve volume work, published in 1977, contains articles written by over 1500 specialists. Most articles conclude with a bibliography of selected, important works

on a particular topic. Another notable encyclopedia for psychology is the four volume Encyclopedia of Psychology (Ref BF31.E52 1984). A third specialized encyclopedia which contains scholarly articles on topics in all the social sciences, including psychology, is the International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences (Ref H40.A2 I5).

See the listing of specialized encyclopedias at the end of this chapter.

SPECIALIZED DICTIONARIES

The function of a specialized dictionary is to define a science's special vocabulary and terminology. The reference room contains a number of dictionaries in psychology and related fields. Definitions in these works are often lengthy; in some cases, several paragraphs in length.

An example of a dictionary of psychological terms is the Encyclopedic Dictionary of Psychology (Ref 31.E555 1983).

See the list of specialized dictionaries at the end of this chapter.

HANDBOOKS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Handbooks summarize major theories and describe the research methodology of a given field. They are really written for the practitioner to be used as a quick and easy consultation tool. They often include citations to landmark writings. The Handbook of Psychological Assessment (Ref BF698.4.E5) is one such work.

See the list of handbooks in psychology at the end of this chapter.

BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARIES AND DIRECTORIES

Biographical dictionaries give information on individuals' lives. Depending on the source being used, articles can be quite long or extremely short. Some biographical sources include only individuals who are alive (e.g. Who's Who in America, Ref E663.W5612), while others only cover deceased persons (e.g. Biographical Dictionary of Psychology, Ref BF109.A1 Z85 1984).

There are two sources which, while they do not themselves contain individual biographies, identify articles and books that do. They are the Biography and Genealogy Master Index (Ref CT213.B56), and Biography Index (Reference, Index Table 7).

On the other hand, directories identify a person's address and possibly his/her phone number and professional affiliations (e.g. the National Faculty Directory, Ref L901.N34). There are also directories that give information about organizations (e.g. the Encyclopedia of Associations, Ref AS22.E5). A directory of psychologists is the Directory of the American Psychological Association (Ref BF11.A67).

There is even a book which is devoted to just identifying directories in all fields. This work is appropriately entitled the Directory of Directories (Ref AY2001.D55).

See the list of biographical dictionaries and directories at the end of this chapter.

SUBJECT BIBLIOGRAPHIES

A subject bibliography is a book that lists writings on a specific topic. These writings can be books, journal and newspaper articles, and other sources of information. Some subject bibliographies will include brief annotations (summaries) of the writings that are listed. The major advantage of this type of reference book is that it lists in one volume many writings on a given topic. An example of a subject bibliography is Human Nonverbal Behavior (Ref BF637.C45 025).

See the list of subject bibliographies at the end of this chapter.

HOW TO FIND REFERENCE BOOKS ON YOUR OWN

Many students are happy to know about the existence of helpful reference books but would also like to know how they can routinely find books like these on their own without having to ask a reference librarian. There are two basic ways to do this and they are outlined below.

1. Know the areas (or call numbers) in the Reference Room where books on your topic are shelved (e.g. books on "marriage and family" are in the call number area HQ503 - 1057, while books on "drug abuse" have the call numbers HV5800 - 5840). Then take the time to browse the area to see what is on the shelves.

2. Use the subject card catalog and look under appropriate subheadings for your topic. You may have to use the Library of Congress List of Subject Headings to determine what the headings are.

The following examples illustrate what some of these headings would look like.

To look for an encyclopedia in psychology, the correct subject heading would be:

Psychology -- Dictionaries and Encyclopedias

Similarly, to look for an encyclopedia in another field you would use the same kind of construct. For example, if you wanted to find a listing for an encyclopedia covering the field of medicine, the subject heading to use would be:

Medicine -- Dictionaries and Encyclopedias

For a dictionary in psychology, you would look under the same heading used above for locating an encyclopedia of psychology:

Psychology -- Dictionaries and Encyclopedias

For a handbook in general psychology, look under the heading:

Psychology -- Handbooks and Manuals

For a biographical dictionary of psychologists, use the heading:

Psychologists -- Biography -- Dictionaries

To find a directory of psychologists, use:

Psychologists -- Directories

To locate a subject bibliography on a specific topic (such as human nonverbal behavior), use the LC List of Subject Headings to determine the correct heading and then attach the term "bibliography" to it. In the case of "nonverbal behavior," the heading would be:

Nonverbal Communication (Psychology)--Bibliography

CHAPTER BIBLIOGRAPHY

Following is a selective list of useful reference works related to psychology research, some of which have already been mentioned in this chapter.

I. SPECIALIZED ENCYCLOPEDIAS

Baker Encyclopedia of Psychology (Ref BF31.B25 1985)

Encyclopedia of Bioethics (Ref QH332.E52)

Encyclopedia of Criminal Justice (Ref HV6017.E52 1983)

Encyclopedia of Education (Ref LB15.E46)

Encyclopedia of Educational Research (Ref L901.E57 1982)

Encyclopedia of Occultism and Parapsychology (Ref BF1407.E52 1984)

Encyclopedia of Psychology (Corsini) (Ref BF31.E52 1984)

Encyclopedia of Psychology (Eysenck) (Ref BF31.E52)

Encyclopedia of Social Work (Ref HV35.S6)

International Encyclopedia of Psychiatry, Psychology, Psychoanalysis, and Neurology (Ref BF31.I57 1977)

International Encyclopedia of Statistics (Ref HA17.I63)

International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences (Ref H40.A2 I5)

II. SPECIALIZED DICTIONARIES

A Comprehensive Dictionary of Psychology and Psychoanalytical Terms (Ref BF31.E58 1958)

Dictionary of Behavioral Science (Ref BF31.W64)

Dictionary of Modern Sociology (Ref HM17.H63 1969b)

A Dictionary of the Social Sciences (Ref H41.G6)

The Encyclopedic Dictionary of Psychology (Ref BF31.E555 1983)

A New Dictionary of the Social Sciences (Ref HM17.M56 1979)

Psychiatric Dictionary (Ref RC437.H5 1970)

III. HANDBOOKS

American Handbook of Psychiatry (Ref RC435.A562)

DSM-III: Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (Ref RC455.2.C4 A48)

Encyclopedia of Clinical Assessment (Ref BF698.4.E5)

Handbook of Child Psychology (Ref BF721.H242 1983)

Handbook of Clinical Behavioral Therapy (Ref RC489.B4 H37)

Handbook of Cross Cultural Human Development (Ref BF721.H243)

Handbook of General Psychology (Ref BF121.W63)

Handbook of Industrial and Organizational Psychology (Ref HF5548.8.H25)

Handbook of Intelligence (Ref BF 431.H3187 1985)

Handbook of Mental Health and Aging (Ref RC451.4.A5 H38)

Handbook of Psychological Assessment (Ref BF39.H2645 1984)

Handbook of Research Methods in Clinical Psychology (Ref RC437.5.H36 1982)

Handbook of Psychotherapy and Behavior Change (Ref RC480.B376 1978)

Handbook of Social Psychology (Ref HM251.L485)

Handbook of the Psychology of the Aging (Ref HQ1061.H336 1985)

IV. BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARIES AND DIRECTORIES

American Men and Women of Science (Ref Q141.A47)

American Psychological Association Directory (Ref BF11.A67)

American Psychological Association Membership Register (Ref BF11.A672)

Biographical Dictionary of Psychology (Ref BF109.A1 Z85 1984)

Biography and Genealogy Master Index (Ref CT213 .B56)

Biography Index (Ref, Index Table 7)

Directory of Directories (Ref AY2001.D55)

Encyclopedia of Associations (Ref AS22.E5)

A Guide to Psychologists and Their Concepts (Ref BF109.A1 N67)

International Directory of Psychologists Exclusive of the United States (Ref BF30.I54 1985)

National Faculty Directory (Ref L901.N34)

Who's Who in America (Ref E663.W5612)

V. SUBJECT BIBLIOGRAPHIES

Alcohol and Youth (Ref HV5824.Y68 B37 1982)

Behavior Modification and the Child (Ref BF637.B4 B475)

Creativity and the Individual (Ref BF408.S72)

Disaffiliated Man: Essays and Bibliography on Skid Row, Vagrancy, and Outsiders (Ref HV8183.B35)

Divorce (Ref HQ834.M34)

Drugs and Sex (Ref HV5825.A22 1983)

The Education of Poor and Minority Children (Ref LC214.2.W44)

Group Behavior (Ref HM131.G67)

History of Psychology (Ref BF81.V5)

Parent-Child Separation (Ref HQ777.4.A38)

Psychoanalysis, Psychology and Literature (Ref PN56.P93 K53 1982)

Spouse Abuse (Ref HV6626.E53 1986)

Stress in Health and Disease (Ref RB113.S46)

Television and Youth (Ref HQ784.T4 M87)

Understanding Body Movement (Ref BF295.D34)

Women and Society (Ref HQ1399.E4)

CHAPTER THREE

JOURNALS IN PSYCHOLOGY

After reading this chapter, you will know:

- -why journals are so important for psychological research
- -how to identify journals appropriate to your research
- -how to use Magazines for Libraries to locate journal titles and their descriptions

In Chapter One you learned how to use the Author-Title Catalog, the Subject Catalog, and the Library of Congress List of Subject Headings in order to locate books on your topic. Various types of specialized reference books were covered in Chapter Two. These sources either contained the information you needed to locate (such as an encyclopedia article about anxiety, or a definition of cognition in a dictionary of psychology), or, as in the case of subject bibliographies, led you to journals or other books that contained the relevant information. These older works are excellent sources of research information for topics that have been explored and interpreted over a period of time, but may not reflect the most current information available.

For research in progress, analysis of current trends, reviews of recently published books, and new interpretations of established theories in psychology, you should consult the scholarly journals in the field. Journal articles are written by specialists and must meet the high standards set by the profession in order to be accepted for publication. They are authoritative, scholarly, usually aimed at a specific audience, and perhaps most important of all, they are up to date. Periodicals, such as journals and magazines are usually published at regular intervals, (e.g. monthly, bi-monthly and quarterly.) By reviewing the recent journal literature in your special areas of interest, you can keep yourself abreast of developing trends.

Q. HOW DO YOU FIND OUT WHAT JOURNALS IN PSYCHOLOGY ARE MOST USEFUL FOR YOUR RESEARCH?

A. There are hundreds of psychology journals available today, both nationally and worldwide, with new titles appearing each year. The Stony Brook library subscribes to nearly 300 in psychology and related fields. They are to be found for the most part in the Main Library, but the Health Sciences Library also has many titles.

It is important to identify the journal titles that best apply to your research before you plunge headlong into the sea of journal literature. There are several methods you can use to narrow the field of titles down to just a few that are important to you. Your instructor, for instance, may be able to recommend key journal titles that specialize in your area of concentration. Choosing the journals with the orientation you are looking for is important.

A second way to identify useful journals is to consult Magazines for Libraries, by Bill Katz (Ref PN4832.K2). This book lists major journals according to subject, and provides a brief evaluation of each. Included in the summary are frequency of publication (see note below), general format, and type of coverage. Under the section "Psychology" in Katz's book, you will find nearly twelve pages that list and describe psychological journals. You must remember however that this is a selective list only and there are many others not included.

Following is a list of significant titles. Some of them are included in Magazines for Libraries. They represent major psychology journals that are included in the holdings of most academic libraries. You will need to examine several of these titles in your search for the articles that constitute the basis of the third assignment. Although the journals listed here are of major importance, there are many more included in Katz's book that may appeal to your research interests. Take a few minutes to read through the list below.

NOTE: Frequencies are denoted by symbols: (w.) weekly, (m.) monthly, (bi-m) every other month, (q.) quarterly, or four times a year, and (s-a) semi-annually, or twice a year. Years indicate when the journal began publication.

American Psychologist (m.), 1946- (Main BF1.A55)
Official journal of the American Psychological Association. Broad in scope. Includes archival documents and articles on current issues in psychology, as well as theoretical and practical papers of general interest to psychologists.

Behavior Therapy (5/yr.) 1970- (Main RC489.B4)
Publishes original research of an experimental and clinical nature which contributes to the theories, practices and evaluation of behavior modification.

Cognition (9/yr.) 1972- (Main BF309.C6)
International in scope. Contains theoretical and experimental papers on the study of mind. Includes book reviews.

Developmental Psychology (bi-m), 1969- (Main BF699.D46)
Experimental research reports that are intended to "advance knowledge and theory about human development across the life span."

Journal of Comparative Psychology (q.), 1983- (Main BF1.J57)
Compares the behavioral patterns of different species as they relate to evolution, development and ecology.

Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology (bi-m.), 1968- (Main BF1.J575.)
Publishes original research reports and case studies in clinical psychology, major papers on clinical theory or concepts, and significant applications of psychological principles to clinical practice.

Journal of Experimental Psychology: General (q.), 1975- (Main BF1.J6)
One of a series of four APA journals covering different areas of experimental psychology. This title emphasizes research in any area that would be of interest to experimental psychologists in general.

Journal of Personality and Social Psychology (m.), 1965- (Main HM251.J56)
Covers research in a broad area including social motivation, attitudes, social interaction, communication processes, group behavior, person perception and conformity.

Journal of Social Issues (q.), 1945- (Main HN51.J6)
Official journal of the society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues. Each issue addresses a different social topic, such as rape, racism or social support networks. Gives scientific findings and interpretation in a non-technical manner.

Psychological Bulletin (bi-m.), 1904- (Main BF1.P75)
Critical and evaluative reviews and interpretations of research in various areas of psychology. Attempts to bridge the gap between related specialized fields within psychology, or between psychology and other related fields. Intended for a broad audience of psychologists and students.

Q. IN WHAT PART OF THE LIBRARY ARE THE JOURNALS KEPT?

A. The most current issues of Main Library journals are kept in the Current Periodicals Reading Room, which is on the first floor of the library. There are usually several recent issues of each journal there. The collection is arranged alphabetically by journal title on the long rows of shelving on one side of the reading room. Back issues of journals are usually available in either one of two formats: bound and shelved in the regular book stacks according to call number, or on microfilm or microfiche. The latter are kept in the Microforms Collection on the second floor of Reference. Chapter Four will describe exactly how you can determine whether or not the library owns the journal you need, what form it is in, and how to find it.

CHAPTER FOUR

PERIODICAL INDEXES AND THE PERIODICALS CATALOG

After reading this chapter you will know the following:

- -How to use a periodical index to find citations to articles on your topic
- -How to use the Periodicals Catalog to find out if the library owns the journal(s) you need
- -The titles of a selection of periodical indexes useful for finding references to journal articles related to psychology.

INTRODUCTION

The preceding chapter described several important journals in the field of psychology, and discussed the importance of identifying relevant journal articles in the course of your research. Because articles are not listed separately in our card catalogs, you will need to consult various indexes in order to identify citations (references) to articles that have appeared in recent periodical literature. Once you have found citations, you can then determine if Stony Brook owns the journals that the articles appear in.

I. USING A PERIODICAL INDEX

Q. WHAT IS A PERIODICAL INDEX?

A. A periodical index is an alphabetical list of names and topics that refer to specific articles in periodicals. Most are multivolume sets, each volume covering a particular time period. Some, like Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature, index popular periodicals such as Time, Psychology Today, and Newsweek. Others index more specialized or scholarly periodicals. Education Index, for instance, indexes periodicals which publish articles on educational topics.

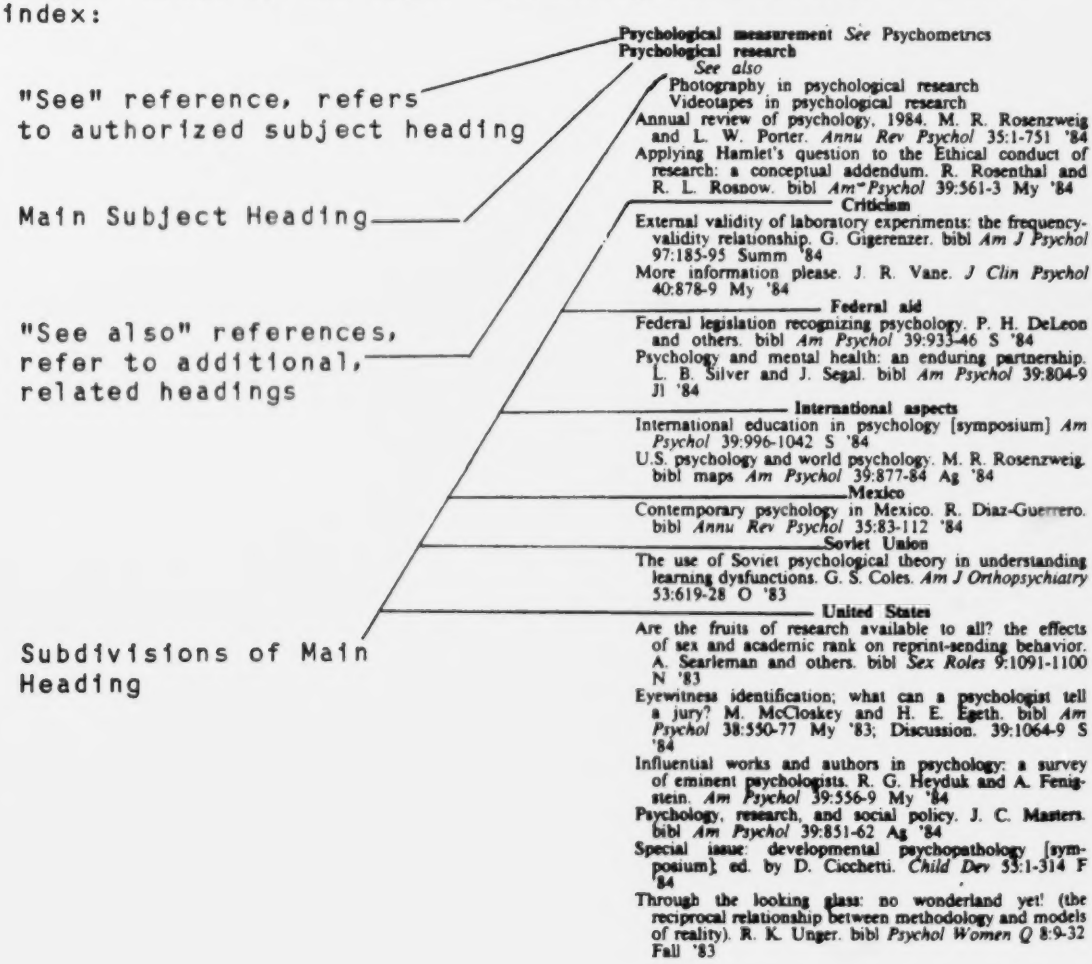
Some users wonder why it is necessary to use periodical indexes. Why not just use the card catalog or skim through periodicals until you find an article on your topic? We suggest the use of periodical indexes for two reasons: first, as mentioned above, the card catalogs do not include listings of individual articles; second, while it is possible to skim

through many issues of a periodical and find articles on your topic, it is much more efficient to use a periodical index which directs you to a large number of articles on that topic.

Understanding the format in which information is presented in an index can save time and reduce frustration. Although indexes vary, some of the most important use a similar format.

Q. HOW DO YOU USE A PERIODICAL INDEX?

A. The following example illustrates the use of a periodical index with an excerpt from the Social Sciences Index (volume 11, 1984-1985). This important index provides references to articles in over 200 periodicals in the fiel s of psychology, sociology, anthropology, political science, economics, and related social sciences. The example shows what you would find if you looked up the topic "Psychological research" in this index:


"See" reference, refers to authorized subject heading
Main Subject Heading
"See also" references, refer to additional, related headings
Subdivisions of Main Heading
Psychological measurement See Psychometrics
Psychological research
See also
Photography in psychological research
Videotapes in psychological research
Annual review of psychology, 1984. M. R. Rosenzweig and L. W. Porter. Annu Rev Psychol 35:1-751 '84
Applying Hamlet's question to the Ethical conduct of research: a conceptual addendum. R. Rosenthal and R. L. Rosnow. bibl Am Psychol 39:561-3 My '84
Criticism
External validity of laboratory experiments: the frequency-validity relationship. G. Gigerenzer. bibl Am J Psychol 97:185-95 Summ '84
More information please. J. R. Vane. J Clin Psychol 40:878-9 My '84
Federal aid
Federal legislation recognizing psychology. P. H. DeLeon and others. bibl Am Psychol 39:933-46 S '84
Psychology and mental health: an enduring partnership. L. B. Silver and J. Segal. bibl Am Psychol 39:804-9 Jl '84
International aspects
International education in psychology [symposium] Am Psychol 39:996-1042 S '84
U.S. psychology and world psychology. M. R. Rosenzweig. bibl maps Am Psychol 39:877-84 Ag '84
Mexico
Contemporary psychology in Mexico. R. Diaz-Guerrero. bibl Annu Rev Psychol 35:83-112 '84
Soviet Union
The use of Soviet psychological theory in understanding learning dysfunctions. G. S. Coles. Am J Orthopsychiatry 53:619-28 O '83
United States
Are the fruits of research available to all? the effects of sex and academic rank on reprint-sending behavior. A. Searleman and others. bibl Sex Roles 9:1091-1100 N '83
Eyewitness identification; what can a psychologist tell a jury? M. McCloskey and H. E. Egeth. bibl Am Psychol 38:550-77 My '83; Discussion. 39:1064-9 S '84
Influential works and authors in psychology: a survey of eminent psychologists. R. G. Heyduk and A. Feingstein. Am Psychol 39:556-9 My '84
Psychology, research, and social policy. J. C. Masters. bibl Am Psychol 39:851-62 Ag '84
Special issue: developmental psychopathology [symposium]; ed. by D. Cicchetti. Child Dev 55:1-314 F '84
Through the looking glass: no wonderland yet! (the reciprocal relationship between methodology and models of reality). R. K. Unger. bibl Psychol Women Q 8:9-32 Fall '83

BIBLIOGRAPHIC CITATION

A reference which provides enough information to enable the user to identify and locate an article is called a bibliographic citation. One citation from the example on the previous page is shown below:

> Federal legislation recognizing psychology. P.H. DeLeon and others. bibl Am Psychol 39:933-46 S '84

This may be broken down into the following elements:

1. Title of the article - FEDERAL LEGISLATION RECOGNIZING PSYCHOLOGY
2. Author(s) - P. H. DELEON AND OTHERS
3. Special features - BIBL (THIS INDICATES THAT A BIBLIOGRAPHY OR LIST OF ADDITIONAL BOOKS AND/OR ARTICLES IS INCLUDED.)
4. Title of the periodical in abbreviated form - AM PSYCHOL (A LIST IN FRONT OF THE INDEX VOLUME GIVES THE UNABBREVIATED TITLE OF THE PERIODICAL, WHICH YOU WILL NEED TO LOCATE THE PERIODICAL IN THE LIBRARY.)
5. Volume number - 39
6. Page numbers of the article - 933-46 (PAGES 933-946).
7. Date of the periodical issue in which article appears - S '84 (SEPTEMBER 1984)

II. DETERMINING WHETHER THE LIBRARY OWNS AN ARTICLE

Check the Periodicals Catalog to see if this library owns the article you need.

Q. WHERE IS THE PERIODICALS CATALOG LOCATED?

A. The Periodicals Catalog is the section of the card catalog immediately behind the reference desks.

Q. HOW DO I LOOK UP THE ARTICLE IN THE PERIODICALS CATALOG?

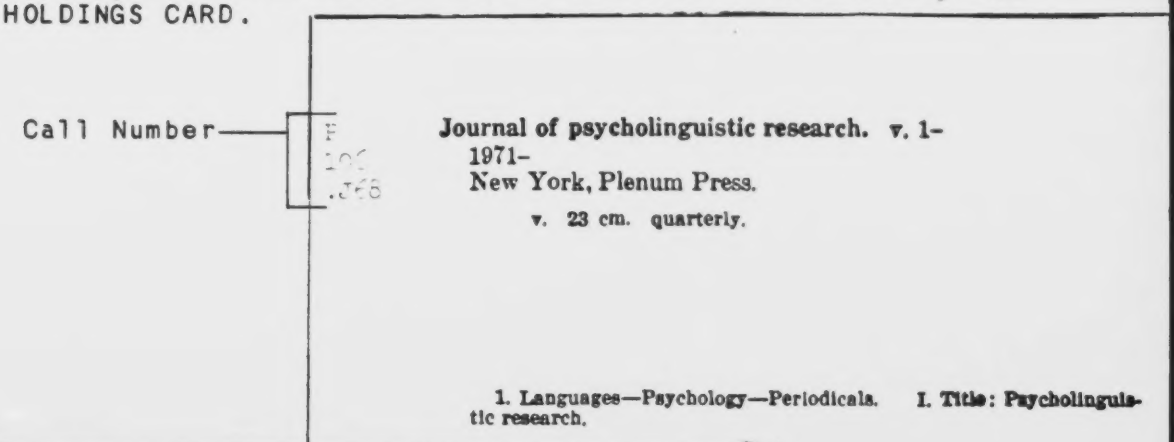
A. Actually, you do not look up the article itself. Instead, you look through the catalog cards for the name of the periodical containing the article you are looking for.

Q. IF I FIND A CARD FOR THE PERIODICAL, DOES THAT MEAN THE LIBRARY OWNS IT?

A. Yes. Or, more correctly, it means the library owns at least part of that periodical. If you do not find it listed, this probably means that we do not own the title. Journals in psychology and related fields which are in the Health Sciences Library (and there are many), some older periodicals on microfilm, and many government periodicals which are owned by the library, may not be listed in the Periodicals Catalog. For more information about these exceptions, see a reference librarian.

Q. HOW DO I INTERPRET THE CATALOG CARDS?

A. The listing of a periodical in the Periodicals Catalog is usually printed on two or more cards. The first card (reproduced below), called the FACE CARD, gives general information on the periodical, including its title, the call number, and other publication facts. The face card is followed by the HOLDINGS CARD.



P 106 .J68 Journal of psycholinguistic research. v. 1- 1971- (Card 2)

LIBRARY HAS THOSE THAT ARE CHECKED

1 1971/72	11 1982	21	31	41
2 1973	12 1983	22	32	42
3 1974	13 1984	23	33	43
4 1975	14 1985	24	34	44
5 1976	15 1986	25	35	45
6 1977	16	26	36	46
7 1978	17	27	37	47
8 1979	18	28	38	48
9 1980	19	29	39	49
10 1981	20	30	40	50

← Holdings Card

Q HOW DO I INTERPRET A HOLDINGS CARD?

A. The holdings card lists all the complete volumes of a periodical that the library owns by recording the years and volumes that are in the collection. On the holdings card, the printed numbers on the left-hand side of each box are the volume numbers. If a year is written next to the volume number, it indicates that the library has received all the issues of that volume, has bound them, and sent them to the stacks where they are shelved in call number order. When a recent volume is not recorded on the holdings cards, it is usually because it is not yet bound. Unbound materials are kept in Current Periodicals.*

SUMMARY

Current information on a topic is most easily located by consulting periodical indexes that list journal articles on a topic. They are usually arranged by subject and author.

The Stony Brook Library owns many indexes, most of which are devoted to specific fields such as art, psychology, economics, sociology, education, etc. A list of indexes useful for psychological research may be found on the following page.

In order to locate a journal article in this library that you saw cited in an index, you must look up the journal's title in the Periodicals Catalog. A listing for a journal in the catalog will show where back issues are kept (either shelved in the stacks under its call number, or in the Microforms Collection under its microfilm or microfiche number). Current unbound issues are located in the Current Periodicals Reading Room.

* This is true for most periodicals, but many are located in science libraries or the Music Library, as shown on the holdings card by the call number. Furthermore, some years of Main Library periodicals are in the Microforms Collection.

INDEXES USEFUL IN PSYCHOLOGY

Education Index (Ref, Index Shelf 4), 1929- .

Index Medicus (Ref Z6660.I422), 1970- .

International Index to Periodicals (Ref, Index Shelf 3), 1907-65.

Psychological Index (Ref BF1.P78), 1894-1935.

Public Affairs Information Service Bulletin (Ref, Index Shelf 6), 1915- .

Readers'Guide to Periodical Literature (Ref, Index Shelf 1), 1900- .

Social Sciences and Humanities Index (Ref, Index Shelf 3), 1965-74.

Social Sciences Index. (Ref, Index Shelf 3), 1974-

CHAPTER FIVE

ABSTRACTING SOURCES IN PSYCHOLOGY AND RELATED FIELDS

After completing this chapter you will know the following:

- -How to use an abstracting source to find citations to and summaries of articles and books related to your topic
- -The titles of several abstracting sources useful for doing psychological research

INTRODUCTION

The preceding chapter showed how to use periodical indexes to find journal articles related to your research topics. In this chapter, instead of periodical indexes, abstracting sources will be described to demonstrate how they can be used in your research.

I. USING ABSTRACTING SOURCES

Q. WHAT IS AN ABSTRACTING SOURCE?

A. An abstract is a summary. An abstracting source is a reference title that contains many summaries of research and other writings in a particular field. Some common titles of abstracting sources are Sociological Abstracts, Women Studies Abstracts, and Psychological Abstracts. These sources are similar to periodical indexes in that they are published at regular intervals with each issue covering a particular time period, they tell you what articles have been written on specific topics, and where the articles appear. But they differ from periodical indexes in the following ways:

1. Abstracting sources contain summaries of writings; periodical indexes do not.

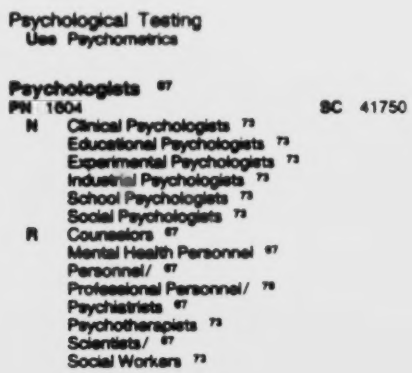
2. In addition to citing periodical articles, abstracting sources may include listings for such items as books, dissertations, research reports, and papers presented at society meetings.

3. Abstracting sources are usually divided into two major sections: a subject index and a collection of abstracts.

Q. HOW DO I USE AN ABSTRACTING SOURCE TO FIND MATERIAL ON MY TOPIC?

A. The search method is a five-step procedure. For example, suppose you are trying to find information about psychological testing, and you want to use Psychological Abstracts (Ref, Index Shelf 2) as a source.

Step 1. Use the Thesaurus of Psychological Index Terms, shelved with Psychological Abstracts, to determine the most relevant heading(s) for your topic. (The Thesaurus is a guide to the subject headings used in Psychological Abstracts, just as the Library of Congress List of Subject Headings is a guide to the headings used in our subject card catalog.) If you look up "Psychological Testing" in the Thesaurus, you are referred to the heading, "Psychometrics" (see below). This means that "Psychometrics" is the approved heading for this topic in Psychological Abstracts. (Many abstracting sources do not have guides to the subject headings which they use. When using those, you must decide on your own what terms to look up, and continue as indicated from Step 2.)



Psychological Testing
Use Psychometrics

Psychologists 67
PN 1604 SC 41750
N Clinical Psychologists 73
Educational Psychologists 73
Experimental Psychologists 73
Industrial Psychologists 73
School Psychologists 73
Social Psychologists 73
R Counselors 67
Mental Health Personnel 67
Personnel/ 67
Professional Personnel/ 73
Psychiatrists 67
Psychotherapists 73
Scientists/ 67
Social Workers 73

When you look up "Psychometrics" in the Thesaurus, you see the entry below. This entry includes a "scope note" (SN), which defines the term as it is used in Psychological Abstracts; a "used for" (UF) indication which states that "Psychometrics" is used instead of "Psychological Testing"; and a list of related terms (R), which refer you to other acceptable terms which may be relevant to your research. The entry for "Psychomotor Development" illustrates some other features which frequently appear in the Thesaurus, such as broader (B) and narrower (N) terms which may be looked up. One other important feature which appears for every acceptable term in the Thesaurus is the little superscript (raised) number immediately following the heading. This number indicates the year that Psychological Abstracts began using a particular term. Thus, the "67" following "Psychometrics" tells us that we would not find this term listed in any of the Psychological Abstracts volumes before 1967.

Psychometrics [67]
PN 562 SC 41770
SN Subdiscipline within psychology dealing with the development and application of statistical techniques to the analysis of psychological data. Also, psychological measurement in which numerical estimates are obtained of a specific aspect of performance.
UF Psychological Testing
R Experimental Design [67]
Experimentation/ [67]
Item Response Theory [86]
Measurement/ [67]
Psychophysics [67]
Statistical Analysis [67]
Test Interpretation [86]
Testing [67]

Psychomotor Development [73]
PN 141 SC 41780
B Motor Development [73]
Physical Development [73]
Psychogenesis [73]
N Speech Development [73]
R Childhood Development [67]
Perceptual Development [73]

Step 2. Look up the term(s) selected from the Thesaurus in the subject index volumes of Psychological Abstracts (the word "index" appears on the spine). Usually, you would start from the most recent issues and volumes, and work backwards as far as necessary to find the type and number of articles that you need. In the following example, taken from the 1985 volume, "Psychometrics" is followed by brief descriptions of articles about that subject. Each of these descriptions is followed by an item number (also called an abstract number).

Psychometrics
clinical vs psychometric evaluation of intellectual state, 33–81 yr olds with Parkinson's disease, 31221
computer applications, program generation for scoring psychological tests, 5564
correlation between computerized axial tomography & psychological test scores, patients with severe head injuries, 25866
criteria of success used in research on effectiveness of creativity training, elementary & secondary & college students & adults, meta analysis of 242 studies, 27809
development & internal consistency of skeleton key technique, probable determination of correct answers to questions whose correct answers are unknown, 11114
development of psychometrics & connection with systems research, Netherlands, 21735
discussion of monotonicity hypothesis in multidimensional scaling, 16387
ethical issues, computerized psychological assessment, psychologists, 12955
examination of psychometric vs Piagetian kinds of intelligence & measures, kindergartners & bright & average & retarded 5–7 yr olds, reanalyses of studies, 5604

Step 3. Look up the item numbers of the references that interest you in the corresponding volume of abstracts (same year, same volume number, and appropriate range of item numbers printed on spine). Abstracts in this book are arranged in item number order. The following example, which is for item 27809, illustrates the full reference and the accompanying abstract or summary.

27809. **Torrance, E. Paul & Presbury, Jack.** (U Georgia) **The criteria of success used in 242 recent experimental studies of creativity.** *Creative Child & Adult Quarterly,* 1984(Win), Vol 9(4), 238–243. —Examined the criteria used in evaluating the effectiveness of creativity training in 166 elementary/secondary and 76 college/adult studies. Findings indicate that there is still a tendency to use psychometric data such as divergent-thinking or creative-thinking test scores to evaluate these studies. The Torrance Tests of Creative Thinking were the most popular criteria used, although these tests were used more frequently at the elementary/secondary level than at the college/adult level. However, there was considerable evidence of the use of more "real-life" creativity indicators, such as the evaluation of creative products, behavior, and self-perceptions. These indicators were particularly common among college/adult studies in which earning money creatively, indicators of increased health and feelings of well-being, increased profits, and medical treatment techniques were among the criteria. Qualitative or nonpsychometric indicators tended to be used more frequently at the college/adult level than at the elementary/secondary level. (6 ref) —*Journal abstract.*

Step 4. Copy down the full bibliographic citation for each item (author, title of book or title of article and journal, date, and, if applicable, volume number and pages.

Step 5. To determine if the library owns a journal article, look in the Periodicals Catalog under the name of the journal. If the citation is for a book, check the Author-Title Catalog under the author's name or the title.

SUMMARY

Abstracting sources are similar to periodical indexes in that they cite journal articles, but some also include citations to books and special papers. They also include abstracts (summaries) of the items listed.

The Stony Brook Library owns many abstracting sources, most of which are devoted to specific fields such as art, psychology, economics, sociology, education, etc. Some abstracting sources of particular interest to researchers in psychology are listed on the following page.

To effectively use Psychological Abstracts, you must first find appropriate subject headings for the topics you are researching by using the Thesaurus of Psychological Index Terms. Look up the subject heading(s) you get from the Thesaurus in the Subject Index volumes of Psychological Abstracts, and look up the entry number you get from the Index Volumes in the corresponding Abstract Volumes.

To find books listed in Psychological Abstracts, or in any other abstracting source, check the Author-Title card catalog. For journal articles, look up the journal title in the Periodicals Catalog.

ABSTRACTING SOURCES USEFUL IN PSYCHOLOGY

Child Development Abstracts and Bibliography (Ref HQ750.A1 N3), 1927- .

Current Index to Journals in Education (Ref, Index Shelf 4), 1969- .

Exceptional Child Education Resources (Ref LC3951.E8), 1969- .

Language and Language Behavior Abstracts (Ref P1.L315), 1967- .

Psychological Abstracts (Ref, Index Shelf 2), 1927- .

Social Work Research & Abstracts (Ref HV1.N3), 1977- .

Sociological Abstracts (Ref, Index Shelf 12), 1953- .

Women Studies Abstracts (Ref HQ1154.W6), 1972- .

CHAPTER SIX

THE SOCIAL SCIENCES CITATION INDEX AND COMPUTERIZED INFORMATION RETRIEVAL

After reading this chapter, you will know:

- -what the Social Sciences Citation Index is
- -how it differs from other periodical indexes
- -how the library's service of computerized searching can help you in your research

I. THE SOCIAL SCIENCES CITATION INDEX

The Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI), located on index shelf 11 in the Reference Room, is one of three similarly formatted indexes produced by the Institute for Scientific Information. (The other two members of its family are the Science Citation Index and the Arts and Humanities Citation Index.) It is sufficiently different from other indexes already reviewed in this book that it merits a separate discussion here.

SSCI Indexes some 4500 journals altogether. These journals represent the broad range of the social sciences, and include as well as psychology, such disciplines as anthropology, business and finance, economics, history, and political science. Approximately 300 specifically psychological journals are included in SSCI's coverage but many articles from the thousands of other journals indexed may be relevant to psychological research. SSCI is divided into three main sections: the Source Index, the Permuterm Subject Index, and the Citation Index.

The Permuterm Subject Index

The Permuterm Subject Index is the section of the Social Sciences Citation Index that provides subject access to articles written during a given year. The subject terms used in the Permuterm Subject Index are taken directly from the titles of the articles indexed. Each significant word (or key term) of each title is included in an alphabetical listing. Under each of these terms appear other key terms (in smaller print) which have been used with the main term in a title. For instance, in the example on the next page, the words "Fear" and "Denial" appear in the title of an article written by A. S. Westman. The words "Fear" and "Effects" appear in the titles of articles by Boyd, Hermann, Kugihara, Landau and McNally.

FEAR
DEATH - - - - TRAMILL JL
- - - - VARGO ME
- - - - WESTMAN AS
DECISIONS - SEGELMOR E
DECREMENT - BOYD TL
DEMAND - - - LANDAU DL
DENIAL - - - - WESTMAN AS
DENOMINATO CRAWFORD AJ
DENTAL - - - BERGGREN U
- - - - KLEINKNE RA
- - - - LANDAU DL
- - - LINDSAY SJE
DEPENDENCY JANMAN K
DESENSITIZ - LANDAU DL
DESIRED - - GOH SC
DETERMINAN BERTENTH BI
JANMAN K
DEVELOPMENT BRAULIN ML
DEVIANCE - - - JANMAN K
DEVIATIONS - NASLUND B
DIMINISHED - CRAWFORD AJ
DISCOMFORT - LINDSAY SJE
DISINTEGRA PARIN P.
DISORDER - - - THYER BA
DISORDERS - - TOMLIN P
DOMINANCE - SHABALIN AT
DRUGS - - - CHEM ENG NE
- - - - ZELLMER WA
DSM-III - - - - TOMLIN P
DYING - - - - - LOO R
- - - - - WESTMAN AS
EATING - - - - MOSS RA
ECONOMICS - SLEMROD J
EFFECT - - - - SEGELMOR E
EFFECTS - - - BOYD TL
- - - HERMANN BP
- - - KUGIHARA N
- - - LANDAU DL
- - - MCNALLY RJ
ELDERLY - - - NORMOYLE J
- - - WESTMAN AS
Main subject term
Other key terms (This is only a small section from the alphabetical list)
Authors

Using the example above, let's say you are doing research on the fear of death or dying. You could look in SSCI's Permuterm Subject Index under the heading "Fear." Having found that term you would look through the listings underneath for the terms "Death" or "Dying". (You could have looked under these terms as headings as well). Looking at our example we see that the terms "Fear" and "Death" do appear together in the titles of articles written by Tramill, Vargo and Westman, and "Fear" and "Dying" in those by Loo and Westman.

After finding the names of authors who have written on your subject, you would then move on to the Source Index, the section of SSCI which cites articles more completely. (See following page for description.)

Advantages of the Permuterm Subject Approach

This feature of identifying articles by linking key words in their titles is a rather special one. Most of the other indexes we have studied use a "controlled vocabulary" approach which means their subject headings have been chosen and standardized by their editors, and are more or less fixed and unchanging from one volume to another. Occasionally, a controlled vocabulary source will fail a researcher because the subject headings it uses do not adequately describe a particular relationship of concepts. For instance, there are few indexes, if any, that would so conveniently provide you with the subject heading "Fear of Death or Dying." In cases like this one, the key term approach of the Permuterm Index can be especially useful because of the way it identifies articles by linking concepts.

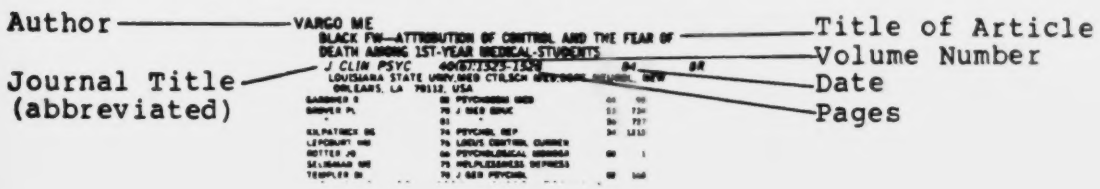
Still another advantage is that the key word approach will provide listings for brand new single terms just coming into use, whereas many controlled vocabulary sources will take a while before new terms are accepted into their pool of subject headings.

One limitation of the key word system is that an article might have an unusual "catchy" title, which would not reflect the subject matter. It would therefore be difficult to locate it by a key word approach.

The Source Index

The Source Index is an alphabetical author index. If you have a particular author whose work you want to find, you can look his or her name up in SSCI's Source Index.

If you wanted to get a more complete citation to the article by Vargo from our example on the previous page, you would look under that name in the Source Index. The citation would look as follows:



The Source Index gives you the title of the article and the journal title with its volume number, date and pages. The very small print in the illustration is a listing of other sources cited in Vargo's article. The full title of the journal can be found in an alphabetical list arranged by abbreviation at the beginning of the Source Index volumes.

The Citation Index

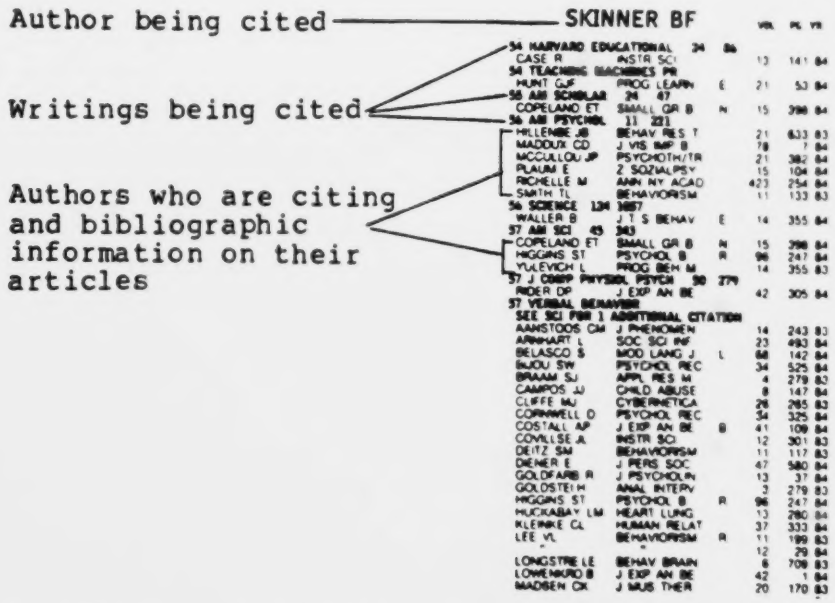
The most unique feature of SSCI is its Citation Index. In it, a researcher can look up a citation to an article written by an author in a previous year and find listed under it all the subsequent articles which make reference to it. The theory behind this format is that when one author cites another author, both

are often writing on the same subject. So in effect, although you are searching by authors' names, this section is a type of subject index.

To use the Citation Index fruitfully, you would need to know of a previously written article, the author's name, the journal it appeared in, and/or the year it was published.

The example that follows is from the Citation Index section of the 1984 SSCI. We see that during that year an article by B.F. Skinner published in 1954 in the Harvard Educational Review, vol. 24, was cited by one other writer. Another article published in American Psychologist, vol. 11, 1956, was cited six times in 1984. (Skinner's list of cited publications for 1984 is too long to be entirely reproduced here.)

Note that the Citation Index also includes references to books. These are the citations without volume numbers. Looking at the example again, in 1957 Skinner had a book published entitled Verbal Behavior.


Author being cited
Writings being cited
Authors who are citing and bibliographic information on their articles
SKINNER BF

II. Computerized Information Retrieval

In computerized information retrieval (also known as computer searching or data base searching), references to books, articles, and other documents can be obtained through the use of a computer system that the Library is linked up to. A librarian types in key terms which describe a research question. The computer then searches its database for titles which have been indexed by at least several of those key words.

Computer searching has an advantage over manual searching of printed sources. As you know, when you search through printed indexes, it is usually possible to focus on only one term or concept at a time. As we just learned, the Social Sciences Citation Index allows you to search two concepts at once. But the computer can search any number of terms simultaneously and quickly identify items that deal with those concepts in relation to one another. Therefore, computer searching is especially useful when you are asking a research question that contains several variables, key terms, or related concepts.

At present, several hundred computerized databases are available for information retrieval. Many of these correspond to such printed indexes as Psychological Abstracts, Sociological Abstracts, Social Sciences Citation Index, etc.

The result of this type of search is a printed bibliography often with summaries of the items listed on a topic. The cost of this bibliography varies from database to database. For example, a 50 item bibliography retrieved from Sociological Abstracts, would cost approximately thirteen dollars; from Psychological Abstracts, eight dollars; and from ERIC (an educational database), five dollars.

Computer searches may be requested at the Reference Desk. The waiting period between signing up for a search and the actual appointment is usually two to three days. The results of the search are received in the mail by the Library in about four working days.

CHAPTER SEVEN

GENERAL MAGAZINES AND NEWSPAPERS

After completing this chapter you will know how to

- -use newspapers and general magazines to locate information that is not always available in scholarly journals
- -find references to articles on your topic that appeared in major newspapers by using specialized newspaper indexes. You will also learn how to locate the articles themselves in the Microforms Collection.

INTRODUCTION

As was mentioned in the previous chapters, scholarly articles in psychology (often ones which report on research), will appear in scholarly, professional journals in psychology as well as other journals in related disciplines. It is these publications that your instructors usually expect you to use when you are doing a serious research report.

On the other hand, popular periodicals such as magazines and newspapers can also be useful sources of research information for psychology students. These publications can provide the researcher with general background information on psychological topics as well as all other subjects.

In addition, a student might be interested in examining how society's attitudes and values are expressed, or have been in the past, in popular magazines and newspapers. By carefully examining the content of a message, and also the method used in conveying the message (e.g. the wording of a news story, or the use of sex stereotypes in advertisements), one can hypothesize about intended messages and also what kind of impact the material is having on those exposed to the communication. (This kind of research is called "content analysis.")

I. INDEXES TO MAGAZINE ARTICLES

Following is a list of some general indexes in the Reference Room that can be useful for locating citations to articles in popular magazines. They are used the same way as the Social Sciences Index which was illustrated in Chapter 5.

Magazine Index. (Microfilm format, located near Reference Desk), Latest 5 years

P.A.I.S. (Ref, Index Shelf 6), 1915-

Popular Periodical Index. (Ref AI3.P76), 1973-

Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature. (Ref, Index Shelf 1), 1890-

II. NEWSPAPERS

"...the American newspaper (is) an unmatched yardstick of society's preoccupations and perspectives."*

Newspapers, which usually appear more frequently than magazines, report events, analyze issues, and present lengthy articles on current topics in politics, religion, education, economics, social change, public opinion, and other topics related to psychology.

USING NEWSPAPER INDEXES

The Stony Brook Library has a very large collection of newspapers. It currently receives dozens of papers from all over the United States and around the world. In addition, the library owns many newspapers from past years, including a large collection of early American newspapers dating back to colonial times, and a collection of several hundred radical and protest papers from the 1960's to the present. The New York Times is in the library from its first issue in 1851, and the Times of London back to its first appearance in 1785. All of our newspapers, except for those dating from the last several months, are on microfilm. The more recent ones are kept in Current Periodicals. A list of currently received newspapers can be seen in Current Periodicals and the Reference Room.

* The Handbook of American Popular Culture, p. 231.

In order to trace past newspaper coverage of a particular topic (such as political protest on college campuses during the 1960's), or locate up-to-date articles on a current news item (such as sex discrimination in the work place), you will need to use a newspaper index. These indexes allow you to pinpoint the location of articles within a newspaper. Newspaper indexes in the Stony Brook Library, and the dates for which they are available, are listed below. They are all located in the Government Documents section of the library on the second floor above the Reference Room.

Chicago Tribune Index, 1972-

Christian Science Monitor Index, 1960-

Los Angeles Times Index, 1972-

National Newspaper Index, Latest 3 years, microfilm format. (Indexes 5 newspapers: New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Los Angeles Times, Christian Science Monitor, Washington Post).

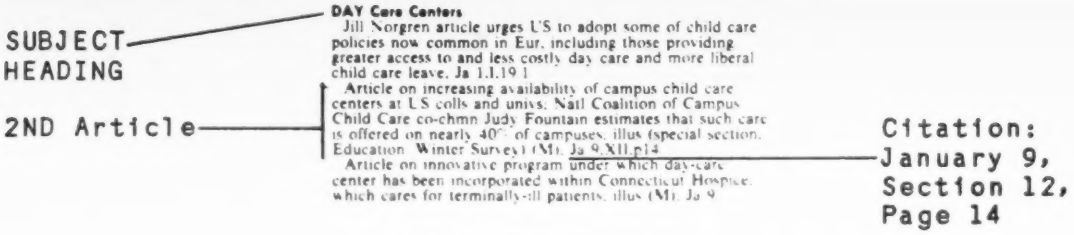
New York Times Index, 1851-

Q. HOW IS A NEWSPAPER INDEX USED?

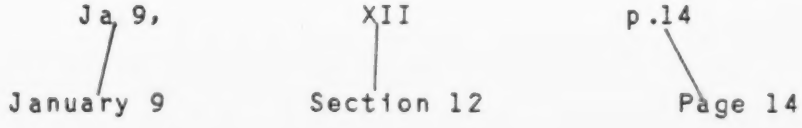
A. To answer this question we will be using two different examples from the New York Times Index. This index uses the following types of subject headings.

Regular headings ("mental health and disorders," "psychology")
Geographical names ("United States," "Sweden")
Organization names ("Psychological Association, American")
Personal names ("King, Martin Luther, Jr.," "Skinner, B.F.")

Example 1:
In the first example, the subject heading illustrated is "Day Care Centers." The paragraphs that appear beneath this heading cite and summarize articles that were printed in the New York Times for a particular time period (this example is reproduced from the 1983 volume of the index).


SUBJECT HEADING
DAY Care Centers
Jill Norgren article urges US to adopt some of child care policies now common in Eur, including those providing greater access to and less costly day care and more liberal child care leave. Ja 1.I.19:1
2ND Article
Article on increasing availability of campus child care centers at US colls and univs; Natl Coalition of Campus Child Care co-chmn Judy Fountain estimates that such care is offered on nearly 40% of campuses; illus (special section: Education Winter Survey) (M). Ja 9.XII.p14
Article on innovative program under which day-care center has been incorporated within Connecticut Hospice, which cares for terminally-ill patients; illus (M). Ja 9
Citation: January 9, Section 12, Page 14

The second paragraph cites an article about the increased availability of the day care services on college campuses. The "M" indicates the article is of medium length (more than 1 column but less than 2). The index also uses the symbol "(S)" to indicate shorter articles that run one half column or less, and "(L)" to indicate longer items that exceed 2 columns. When no indication of length is given, as in the first paragraph above under "Day Care Centers," the citation is for an editorial, regular column, or review. The identifying elements of the second citation are shown by the symbols:



Note that the year is not included in the citation; it is understood that it is the year of the volume you are using. The example above indicates the article is in section 12 by using roman numeral XII. When no roman numeral is provided, it is understood that the article appears in section 1. Note also that all articles that appear beneath a subject heading are listed in CHRONOLOGICAL order (i.e., by the dates that they were printed in the New York Times).

Example 2:
The following example from the 1984 New York Times Index illustrates another standard type of presentation commonly found in that index; instead of listing the articles under the original heading ("Public Opinion"), it directs the user to a second heading (a "cross reference") under which are listed references to articles about public opinion on specific issues such as "Leisure" or "U.S. Elections."

ORIGINAL HEADING

PUBLIC Opinion. See also
China, Ap 29
France, Ap 22
Income, Ap 26
Leisure, Ap 29
Middle East, Ap 30
Minn, Ap 30
Nicaragua, Ap 27
Pres Elect '84, Ap 16,19,20,23,24,29,30
Security and Warning Systems, Ap 22
US—Elections, Ap 1, 29
US Intl Rel, Ap 29

The entry for "Income" refers to an article about a Gallup Poll that appeared in the April 26 issue of the New York Times; the complete cross reference is shown below:

CROSS REFERENCE FROM ORIGINAL HEADING →

INCOME. See also NJ, Ap 22, Taxation
Commerce Department reports personal income of Americans rose five-tenths of 1 percent in March, to seasonally adjusted $2,940.5 billion, smallest gain in seven months, says gain is further evidence that economic growth is slowing, graph (M), Ap 19,IV,1:1
Gallup Poll annual survey of Americans' perception of living costs indicates minimum income that family of four needs to make ends meet is $300 a week, finds that its audits tend to correlate with Consumer Price Index compiled by Bureau of Labor Statistics; median income figure among college-educated respondents is $352, while figure for those with high-school educations is $299 (M), Ap 26,I,20:1

ARTICLE CITED FOR April 26 →

Q. AFTER FINDING CITATIONS TO NEWSPAPER ARTICLES IN THE INDEXES, HOW DOES ONE ACTUALLY OBTAIN THE NEWSPAPER?

A. Get the microfilm call number of the newspaper by looking under the name of the paper in the microforms card catalog, which, like the newspaper indexes, is located in the Government Documents section. Take down the call number (e.g. the call number for the New York Times is "Microfilm A7"), and go to the Microforms area at the other end of that floor. The person on duty will help you find the microfilm you need, and demonstrate how to use the microfilm machines for reading and/or photocopying.

NEWSPAPERS: A SUMMARY

The library has a large collection of newspapers, both foreign and U.S.

Several major American papers are part of this collection, including a full run of the New York Times from 1851.

Newspaper indexes, such as the New York Times Index, are used to get exact citations to articles. Newspaper indexes in our library are listed on page 41.

The most recent issues of newspapers received are in Current Periodicals. Earlier years of papers are on microfilm and can be obtained in the Microforms Collection.

CHAPTER EIGHT

PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTS AND MEASURES

After reading this chapter you will know the following:

- -The definition of a psychological test or measure
- -How to use Buros' Mental Measurements Yearbook to obtain information about tests.
- -The titles of several other reference sources useful for finding additional information on published and unpublished psychological tests.

Q. WHAT ARE PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTS AND MEASURES?

A. A psychological test or measure is a set of questions whose answers can be used to assess aspects of an individual's personality, intellectual abilities, or perceptual skills. The tests are designed to be administered and interpreted by trained professionals in psychology, medicine, social work, education, personnel and counseling. A particular test may measure factors relating to a person's educational achievement or aptitude, sensory coordination, personality structure, anxiety level, vocational interests, motivation to achieve, etc.

As a student, you may be required to become familiar with one or more of these tests. However, since most are not readily available to non-professionals, (and are not, as a rule, held by research libraries such as ours), you would have to learn about the tests by reading about them, as opposed to examining them first hand. Since many of the tests, especially the major ones, have been written about in books and journals, you could obtain test information by reading these secondary sources.

Q. HOW CAN I DETERMINE WHAT HAS BEEN WRITTEN ABOUT SPECIFIC PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTS?

A. The Reference Room contains a number of reference books that can help you obtain secondary source information about psychological tests. In this chapter, we will be concentrating on the most comprehensive one of these, Buros' Mental Measurements Yearbook.

THE MENTAL MEASUREMENTS YEARBOOK

The Mental Measurements Yearbook (also variously referred to as Buros, Buros' Mental Measurements Yearbook, or simply by the initials, MMY), is a multi-volumed set which has been published in nine separate editions since 1937. All nine editions are shelved together in the Reference Room (Ref BF431 .B78).

Actually, the meaning of certain words in the title of this work should be explained. To begin with, "Buros" is the name of the person (Oscar K. Buros), who was responsible for the creation and publication of the first eight editions of the Yearbook. The word "Mental," within the context of MMY, refers to a whole cluster of psychological processes which may be intellectual, behavioral, perceptual, attitudinal, and so forth. The word "Yearbook" is misleading since MMY is not nearly published once a year but more like once every 10 years.

Now let's turn to the content of this work. Virtually all English language psychological tests and measures that are commercially available (i.e. may be purchased from test publishers by professionals) are included in MMY. MMY provides information on each test's purpose, administration time, age group of those to be tested, alternate forms, and publisher. Of further importance is the inclusion of complete bibliographies which identify articles and books dealing with each test. For major tests, detailed critical reviews are included.

Q. HOW IS THE MENTAL MEASUREMENTS YEARBOOK USED?

A. A good way to learn the organization and use of the Mental Measurements Yearbook is to go directly to the work (Ref BF431.B78) and follow the steps below.

Step 1. The latest edition of the Mental Measurements Yearbook (the 9th, 1986), is in two volumes. Skim through the volumes and note that the tests are listed by title in alphabetical order.

Step 2. Turn to test #1385 which is in volume 2 on pages 1755 to 1758.

Step 3. Look at the entry and study the first paragraph. The first thing noted is the entry number (1385), and then the title of the test (the Wonderlic Personnel Test). What follows is miscellaneous information about the test including a) the intended test population; b) publication dates of the test; c) the test's abbreviation (WPT); d) information on different forms of the test, with prices for those professionals interested in purchasing the test; e) the name of the organization to order from.

Step 4. In the second paragraph of this entry, MMY identifies several other places where you can find additional information on the Wonderlic Personnel Test. For instance, reference is made to another of Buros' publications, Tests in Print (Ref BF431.B82), by using "T3" and "T2". "T3:2638" means the 3rd edition of Tests in Print, page 2638, and "T2:482" means the 2nd edition of Tests in Print, page 482. MMY also identifies previous editions of itself which carried information on the test by using numbers separated by a colon. For instance, for reviews written by Droege and Foley, you are referred to "7:401," meaning the 7th edition of the Mental Measurements Yearbook, test number 401; for reviews by Downie and Dunnette, see the 6th edition of MMY, test number 513; and so forth.

Step 5. The next section, entitled "Test References," lists 8 other recent writings that have appeared on this test. In this case, all 8 are journal articles. Sometimes books or parts of books are cited.

Step 6. The next section contains reviews of the Wonderlic Test written by two expert evaluators. One review by Frank L. Schmidt begins on page 1755 and a second one by Lyle F. Schoenfeldt, on page 1757. After the first reviewer's critique is a list of works he used in writing his piece. But Schmidt's review contains no such bibliography. Throughout MMY, some reviews contain bibliographies and some do not.

Step 7. Not all tests are covered as well as is the Wonderlic Personnel Test. Some tests have no critiques accompanying their test descriptions. For instance, in the entry for the Tennessee Self-Concept Scale, test # 1236, volume 2, page 1542 of MMY, the descriptive information given at the beginning follows the same format as was found under the Wonderlic Test. However, there are no reviews; just a very long bibliography of related works (which, of course, can be extremely useful).

Step 8. Some entries are treated more briefly than the two above, mainly because not much, or sometimes nothing, has appeared on the tests in journals and books. Two examples of briefer entries are reproduced below.

[1275]

Test of the Hierarchy of Inductive Knowledge. Educable mentally retarded children ages 9–14; 1979–82; THINK; assess level of social problem-solving among EMR learners; 9 scores: label, detail, visual inference, statement of problem, solution-qualifications, best, predictions-verifications, learning statement, generalization; no data on reliability and validity; no norms; individual; 1 form ('82, 57 stimulus/picture cards); answer sheet booklet ('82, 13 pages); instruction manual for test administrators ('82, 36 pages); price data available from publisher; (60–70) minutes; I. Leon Smith and Sandra Greenberg (manual); Professional Examination Service.*

TEST REFERENCES

1. Smith, I. L., & Greenberg, S. Hierarchical assessment of social competence. AMERICAN JOURNAL OF MENTAL DEFICIENCY, 1979, 83, 551–555.
2. Smith, I. L., & Greenberg, S. Dimensions underlying a hierarchically based assessment of social problem-solving. AMERICAN JOURNAL OF MENTAL DEFICIENCY, 1980, 84, 411–414.

[1276]

Test of Visual-Perceptual Skills (Non-Motor). Ages 4–12; 1982; TVPS; scores in 7 areas: visual discrimination, visual memory, visual-spatial relationships

[1095]

Self Concept Scale, Secondary Level. Grades 6–9; 1980–82; criterion referenced; "level of self-concept based on the measurement of five basic living skills"; 6 scores: decision making, interpersonal relationships, responsibility, citizenship, career planning, total; no data on reliability; 1 form ('80, 4 pages includes profile sheet); manual ('82, 15 pages); 1984 price data: $30.80 per kit including 35 pupil record forms and manual; $35.75 per 50 pupil record forms; $3.85 per manual; (15–20) minutes; Dallas Educational Services and Bob Percival (manual); Dallas Educational Services.*

[1096]

Self-Description Inventory. Grades 9 and over; 1975–77; SDI; measures normal personality and vocationally oriented dimensions; 22 scores: 11 personal

Step 9. Let's take a look at the different indexes that are included in the Mental Measurements Yearbook. There are six separate indexes which appear toward the end of volume 2. The first is the Index of Titles, pages 1807 through 1822. Some of the features of this index are 1) the test titles are listed in alphabetical order; 2) the numbers after the titles refer to test entry numbers, not page numbers; 3) an (N) next to a number means the test is new and/or has never been included in Buros before; 4) an (R) means the test has been revised or supplemented since last being listed in MMY.

Step 10. The Index of Acronyms (pages 1823 through 1832), lists those tests that may be known by their initials and then tells you the complete test name. The test entry number follows.

Step 11. The Classified Subject Index lists tests by subject. There are 17 broad subject areas that are outlined in a table on pages 1833 and 1834. You note the page number given for a listing of tests in a specific subject area. For instance, if you were interested in a list of tests covered in MMY for measuring personality traits, you would turn to page 1846. The list of personality tests begins here and goes to page 1851.

The tests' titles are presented in alphabetical order, their item entry numbers are given, and information on the intended test group is provided.

Step 12. The Publishers Directory and Index follows. Publishers are listed in alphabetical order with their addresses, along with the respective entry numbers of the tests they have produced.

Step 13. The Index of Names, beginning on page 1869, lists all persons mentioned in MMY who have authored tests, written reviews, or have been cited in one of the bibliographies. Numbers in parentheses refer to item numbers in the bibliographies. Numbers outside of parentheses are test entry numbers.

(Examples: Adams, C.H. has been cited in two references in two different bibliographies (see test 137 and turn to item number 56 in its bibliography; or go to reference #179 in the bibliography for test item 715.

Achterberg, J. is the author of test #499.

Aaron, I.E. wrote reviews for tests 747, 1037, and 1062)

Step 14. The last index, the Score Index, begins on page 1951. It lists, in alphabetical order, all the variables the tests claim to measure (or have scores for.) The numbers at the end of the variables are the entry numbers for the tests measuring those variables. This index, along with the Classified Index (mentioned above), is another type of subject approach to the tests listed in MMY.

THE MENTAL MEASUREMENTS YEARBOOK: A SUMMARY

The Yearbook gives information on thousands of psychological tests, such as the nature of a test, the intended population, the cost of the test, its different forms, and its publisher.

It provides critical evaluations for many tests, and lists references to other reviews.

It has six separate indexes, two of which (Classified Subject Index and Score Index) can help you identify tests whose measurements pertain to different subject areas, skills, deficiencies, etc.

OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION FOR PUBLISHED TESTS

In addition to MMY, the three sources below may be used to find information about published psychological tests:

Tests (Ref BF176.T43 1983) and supplement. Used in conjunction with Test Critiques (Ref BF176.T419). 4 volumes.

Psychological Abstracts (Index Shelf 2). We learned about this important source in Chapter 5. You may use Psych Abstracts to find journal articles about major published psychological tests and measures. Major tests will be listed under their full names in the Psychological Abstracts subject indexes.

UNPUBLISHED TESTS AND MEASURES

Thus far, this chapter has presented several ways to acquire information about published tests. There also exists many unpublished tests and measures. These are ones that have not been produced by a test publisher and are not commercially available. On the other hand, they may have appeared as part of a journal article, a research report, a book, or some other publication. To identify the location of information on these tests, use the following sources:

Directory of Unpublished Experimental Mental Measures (BF431.G624). 2 volumes.

Tests and Measurements in Child Development (Ref BF722.J64)

Tests and Measurements in Child Development: Handbook II (Ref BF722.J431) 2 volumes.

CHAPTER SUMMARY

Psychological tests and measures are instruments that quantify the presence or absence of one or more psychological processes.

Published psychological tests are not widely available to the general public. Information on these tests can be obtained in secondary literature.

A reference book which provides a substantial amount of background, critical, and bibliographic information on published psychological tests is Buros' Mental Measurements Yearbook.

There also are tests that are unpublished. The Directory of Unpublished Experimental Mental Measures is one source that enables you to locate information on these titles.

CHAPTER 9

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS

After reading this chapter you will know:

- -what a government document is
- -the variety of documents available in the Stony Brook Library
- -how to use the Monthly Catalog to locate U.S. government documents in this library

INTRODUCTION

Government documents are publications written and issued by any government body or agency. They include publications of the United States Federal Government, the states, cities, counties or other levels of governments, as well as foreign governments. Their importance lies in the fact that they provide the reader with detailed accounts, reports and statistics on a great variety of topics. For the most part, these detailed analyses are unavailable elsewhere. Many federal government agencies, such as the National Institutes of Mental Health, Drug Abuse and Alcoholism, and Child Health and Human Development, publish material particularly relevant to research in psychology.

EXAMPLES OF MAJOR TYPES OF GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS

Subject Reports-- These are detailed reports, thousands of which are issued each year by the federal government and its agencies. They are on topics of current interest in such areas as health, economics, education, social welfare, and foreign affairs. An example of a recently published subject report is: The Neuroscience of Mental Health: A Report on Neuroscience Research issued by the National Institute of Mental Health in 1984.

Laws of the United States--Entitled United States Statutes at Large, these are the complete, official versions of the laws passed at each session of Congress.

Congressional Hearings--These are the transcripts of information-gathering meetings held by congressional committees in which experts and witnesses testify on subjects under consideration for new legislation. A recent committee hearing is entitled, Child Abuse: What We Know About Prevention Strategies: Hearing Before the Select Committee on Children, Youth and Families (1984).

Congressional Committee Reports--Issues being considered for legislation are explained and analyzed in lengthy writings issued by congressional committees. An example of such a report is Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Services, and Developmental Disabilities Assistance. A Report of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, 1984.

The Congressional Record--The proceedings on the floors of the U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives are reported in this transcript, which is issued each day Congress is in session.

U.S. Supreme Court Reports--This publication contains the decisions on all cases heard before the Supreme Court including the full opinions of each justice.

Census Reports--These are the highly detailed accounts of the numbers and characteristics of the people who live in the United States.

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS IN THE STONY BROOK LIBRARY

Government Documents, located on the 2nd floor of the Reference Department, contains well over a million items in paper or on microfilm. Most of these documents are U.S. government publications, but extensive collections of local, state, and United Nations documents are also held by the library.

Documents are somewhat more difficult to locate than most materials in the library. Only a small number of documents actually appear in the card catalog. These may be in a number of locations, including Documents, Microforms, the Reference Room, the stacks and the science libraries. But most documents are not cataloged and must be identified and located in the documents section by using the Monthly Catalog (Doc Ref Z1223.A18).

The Monthly Catalog

The Monthly Catalog is the basic reference tool for retrieving federal publications. It is issued by the U.S. Government Printing Office, the main printing department of the government. As its name implies, the Monthly Catalog appears in monthly installments, with each one listing most of the documents issued during that month. Our library receives most of these documents either in printed format, microform or both. That's roughly 70,000 items per year. Because most of these items are not listed in the card catalog, the Monthly Catalog index is usually the best source for determining what documents are available in the library.

Some of the important characteristics of the Monthly Catalog are:

1. It is divided into several distinct sections. The main section lists each publication and includes the author's name, title, publication date, issuing agency, and number of pages. Each publication is also assigned a unique Monthly Catalog number. The documents are arranged in consecutive order by these numbers.

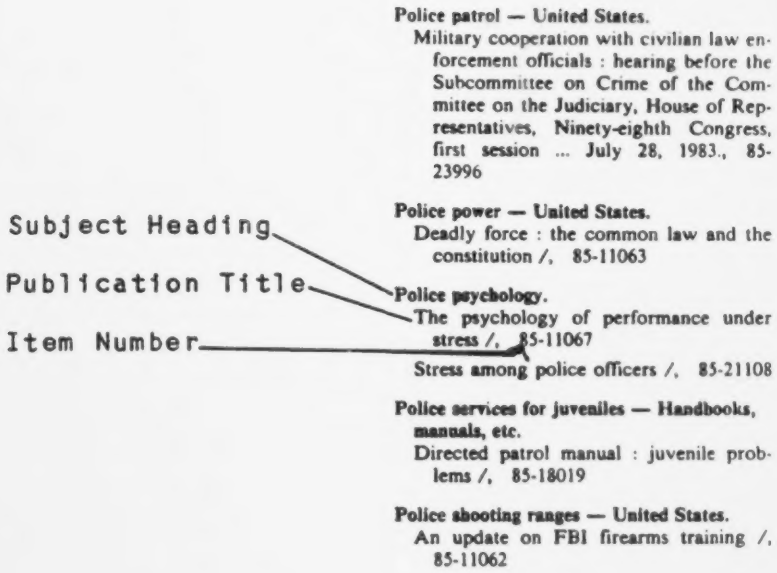
2. The other sections are made up of a number of indexes, among them author, title, and subject. These indexes tell you what Monthly Catalog number to use to find the more complete references in the main section. The indexes appear in the back of each monthly issue. At the end of the year, the monthly indexes are replaced by annual cumulations.

3. A black dot included in the complete reference to the document indicates that it is automatically sent free of charge to certain major libraries around the country. These libraries are called "depository" libraries. Stony Brook is one of over 1000 such libraries, although our actual status is one of "selective-depository," meaning that we receive many, but not all, depository items. "Non-depository" items (no black dot on the item reference) must be specifically requested by libraries wishing to receive them.

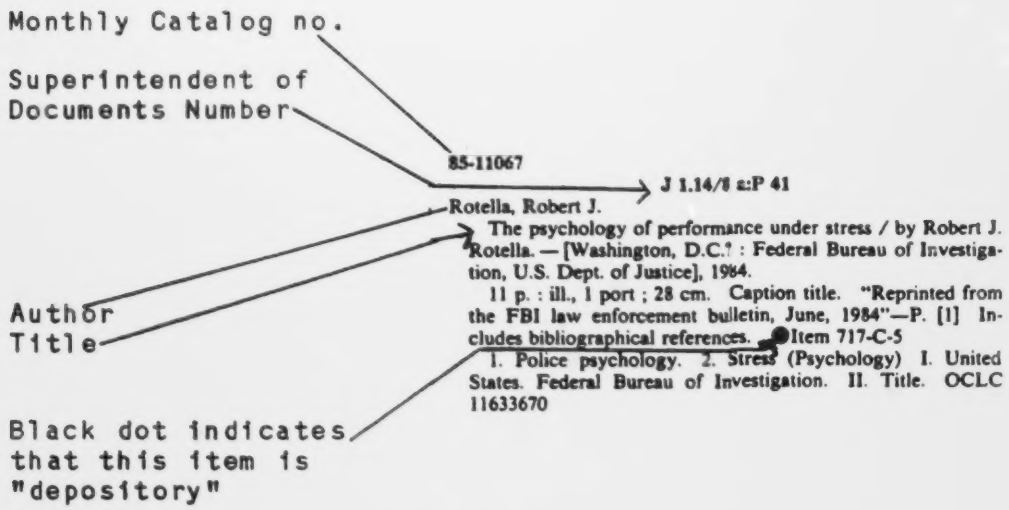
HOW TO USE THE MONTHLY CATALOG

To illustrate the Monthly Catalog, we will use the example below which is taken from the 1985 Monthly Catalog index. Let us say that you are doing psychological research on police officers, particularly on the effects of stress on them. You want to find out if the government has recently published any reports on the subject.

Step 1. You look in the subject index volume of the Monthly Catalog and find the heading "Police Psychology." There are two titles under this heading. Both look relevant. (See example on the next page).


Police patrol — United States.
Military cooperation with civilian law enforcement officials : hearing before the Subcommittee on Crime of the Committee on the Judiciary, House of Representatives, Ninety-eighth Congress, first session ... July 28, 1983., 85-23996
Police power — United States.
Deadly force : the common law and the constitution /, 85-11063
Police psychology.
The psychology of performance under stress /, 85-11067
Stress among police officers /, 85-21108
Police services for juveniles — Handbooks, manuals, etc.
Directed patrol manual : juvenile problems /, 85-18019
Police shooting ranges — United States.
An update on FBI firearms training /, 85-11062
Subject Heading
Publication Title
Item Number

Step 2. You decide to look at the first title. Note the Monthly Catalog number for this publication (85-11067) and find that item in the main section of the Monthly Catalog for 1985.


85-11067
J 1.14/8 s:P 41
Rotella, Robert J.
The psychology of performance under stress / by Robert J. Rotella. — [Washington, D.C.] : Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Dept. of Justice], 1984.
11 p. : ill., 1 port ; 28 cm. Caption title. "Reprinted from the FBI law enforcement bulletin, June, 1984"—P. [1] Includes bibliographical references. Item 717-C-5
1. Police psychology. 2. Stress (Psychology) I. United States. Federal Bureau of Investigation. II. Title. OCLC 11633670
Monthly Catalog no.
Superintendent of Documents Number
Author
Title
Black dot indicates that this item is "depository"

Step 3. Take down the following information from the full listing:

- name of the author (Rotella, Robert J.)
- title of the publication
- the Monthly Catalog number (85-11067)
- the Superintendent of Documents number (J1.14/8 a:P41)
- information as to whether a black dot accompanies the listing (black dots mean depository; no black dot means non-depository)

Step 4. Go to the librarian at the documents desk with this information. He or she will help you determine where the material is located in the library.

SUMMARY

A government document is a publication written and issued by a government such as the United States federal government or New York State.

The Government Documents Section of the library receives many thousands of items including local, state, federal and United Nations documents.

The Monthly Catalog is the basic index for retrieving U.S. documents.

After using the Monthly Catalog and taking down the appropriate information about an item go to the librarian at the documents desk who will help you locate the publication.